

LITERARY NOTES.

That is rather an inspiring picture made by the Emperor of Russia and Count Tolstoy as they meet, according to the dispatches, at a railway station and discuss the now famous proposal for a decrease in the armament of the world. We wish we could see it on canvas—the young, powerful and anxious monarch turning to the old man, powerless and yet so full of power, for counsel in one of the greatest difficulties that his whole reign could possibly bring forth. How times have changed! Napoleon was by way of being a patron of letters and the arts, but his munificence to painters and authors was chiefly directed by desire to win fame for himself. The memoirs of the Napoleonic era contain more than one allusion to the Corsican's brutal demeanor toward men of mind with whom at the moment he happened to be out of patience. In what contrast to his egotism and vulgarity is the modesty of the young Autocrat of the Russias listening with politeness while Tolstoy tells him that he must set the example if he wishes to see his scheme come to anything. To be sure, Nicholas is a young man, and not a great one; but he is the first man in his empire, and many a popinjay, possessed of only a tenth of his rank, would, we imagine, have been quick to resent the frank words which he accepted in such a gracious spirit, because he knew what manner of man addressed him. With Tolstoy lecturing the Czar, with Zola helping to win Dreyfus's liberty, with Kipling acting as a mouthpiece and a monitor for English imperialists, the man of letters cannot claim that he is being obscured by the man of action.

M. Jussier is one of the few Frenchmen who know the English language and English literature thoroughly. He made the best of his time when attached for some years to the French Embassy in London. He is therefore well qualified for the task upon which he is now engaged, a translation into English of his book, "Shakespeare in France."

Mr. Paul L. Ford has paused in his semi-biographical, semi-historical work to write a novel. It is a story of the American Revolution, and is entitled "Janice Meredith." It is to be published as a serial in "Collier's Weekly."

A volume entitled "Pepysiana" has been added to the new edition of Pepys's Diary, published by Bell, of London. This last volume contains a pedigree of Pepys, contributed by Mr. Lindsay, the Windsor Herald, and a table of relationship of the persons mentioned in the diary, so far as it has been possible to trace these. There are also interesting plates and a folding map of London as it was in the time of Pepys.

The Queen of Rumania has just completed a poetic romance, the central figure of which is Owen Glendower, and the scene of which is laid in Wales. This will doubtless be pleasant news to those who enjoy the literary work of this amiable royal lady. We do not think that these readers are many.

Sir Walter Besant is a member of a lodge of Free Masons which rejoices in the stately name of the "Quatuor Coronati." It appears that these Masons take the towel, which is apt to figure so conspicuously in the insignia of their mystery, in a very practical sense. They are archaeologists one and all, and not only the residents in London but some two thousand correspondents in different parts of the world are as eager to dig up the earth to get at the secrets of ancient Masonic buildings as some speculator might be to chase a particularly elusive butterfly over the roof of the world. The "Coronati" have chartered a ship, which is to sail next month for Palestine, and Sir Walter Besant hopes to go along. His talk about the projected voyage contains a few interesting points relating to the Holy Land. For example, he was secretary of the Palestine Exploration Fund at the time Lord Kitchener—Major, as he was at that time—labored for the fund on the survey of West Palestine. "I used to see him pretty frequently in those days," says Besant, "and very good work he did. He was so thorough in all that he undertook." Sir Walter speaks of other striking figures in the East, among them Professor Palmer, who, when news came that a rebellion was fomenting in Egypt, rode pellmell through the desert on a scorching July day, and so used his knowledge of native traits and tongues that without striking a blow he persuaded some twenty thousand men to sit down and keep still.

Sir Walter Besant speaks in conclusion about his "Survey of London," the series of volumes on which he has long been working. He says:

I hope to get the first volume ready by October, and then to get the subsequent volumes ready at the rate of one every three months. I now have all the material in hand for five volumes, but some of it needs revising. I have already been engaged in this work for four years, and it is certainly far and away the biggest thing I have yet undertaken. Every street has been perambulated, every building noted. My own part of the work has been the history of the prehistoric ages to the present day. One man has done the churches, another the schools, another education, which is half a volume in itself, and so on.

With the beginning of the new year the Harpers have turned "Literature" into a new periodical. The subtitle of "An International Gazette of Criticism" is wisely retained, because in its new form the paper still offers a fair proportion of the matter prepared under Mr. Traill's editorship in London. But the leaders written by that gentleman no longer hold of necessity, the first place. The one in the current number is written by Mr. Howells, who discourses amusingly on the "Deity of the Letter R in America." The miscellaneous articles of which the paper is made up are written to a considerable extent by American authors. The new cover is decorative and attractive.

Mr. Anthony Hope's new novel, "The King's Mirror," is just finding its way into print.

"The noble sight to witness the pot joggling cheerily toward the kettle and calling its enemy black, very black, the blackest of the black. Here is Mr. Richard Le Gallienne turning from 'Golden Girls' and lovely essays to castigate Mrs. Alice Meynell. And what for? Why, prytch, because the lady is as full of preciosity and affectation generally as, not to speak disrespectfully, a 'Golden Girl' is full of imbecility. Mr. Le Gallienne is terribly troubled and terribly serious, telling us all about the literary faults of Mrs. Meynell. To be sure, he is right for once; but equally to be sure, it is preposterous that he should offer any remarks on literary style—a subject of which he obviously knows nothing. Mrs. Meynell must smile as she follows this little sermon to its end, and there finds it observed that while she is a sister to the rain she is nothing more nor less than a predestined lover to the poplar. There is sincere simplicity for you of the good old Le Gallienne sort!"

We are told that Lewis Carroll once contemplated the production of an opera on the subject of his immortal "Alice," and even entered into correspondence with Alexander Mackenzie as the possible composer of music for his libretto. The plan fell through, however, because the author, who finally acknowledged himself unequal to his share of the task, would not commit it to any one else. One of his original ideas was to get the audience to sing or join in the choruses of the opera.

We have alluded to the excellent record of the year just passed in America in the matter of the publishing of books. We may quote from the "London Daily Chronicle" this summing up of investigation into the subject among the London shops: "From the booksellers' standpoint the year, taking it all in all, was fairly good. In

the sense of literature it was perhaps more than that, without being in any wise historic."

"American taste in fiction," says "The London Globe," "sometimes coincides with English and as often disagrees. In the case of 'Tribes,' both nations read the book, but America worshipped it. We did not. In the case of 'The Forest of Love,' both nations are reading it with about equal interest. America read Steniewicz's 'Quo Vadis' until it was dizzy; here few persons would look at it. Steniewicz is a Pole, but America does not necessarily run to foreigners for entertainment. It is at the present moment enthusiastically reading two works by native authors—Mr. Hopkinson Smith's 'Caleb West' and Mr. Paul Leicester Ford's 'Story of an Untold Love.' Neither book is in real demand here."

What ought to be the most amusing of the Memoirs of the period of the Second Empire are being set down by the pen of Princess Metternich—that Austrian princess whose husband was Ambassador to the Court of Louis Napoleon, and who was one of the cleverest and most pliant women of that Court. She was one of the ugliest, too, but so quaint and vivid in her ugliness that she was almost pretty.

Mr. Louis Becke, the author of some of the most striking of modern tales of the South Seas, is not an author by education and premeditation. He himself declares that he took to writing simply because he was starving. When he returned to Sydney after his last trading voyage in these tropic seas he was suffering from rheumatic fever, and his ship sailed without him. He found work at clearing "scrub" at \$10 an acre. When he discovered that the "scrub" consisted of huge trees a friend offered him a humble berth on "The Sydney Bulletin," and to use his own expression, "the other chap ran my grammar for me."

There is an amusing French picture of the wife of Charles Dickens in the lately published biography of Henry Morley. It is in a letter written by Professor Morley himself. "Literary people," he declares, "do not marry learned ladies. Dickens had made evidently a comfortable choice. Mrs. Dickens is stout, with a round, very round, rather pretty, very pleasant face, and ringlets on each side of it. One sees in five minutes that she loves her husband and her children, and has a warm heart for anybody who won't be satirical, but meet her on her own good-natured footing. We were capital friends at once, and had abundant talk together. She meant to know me, and once, after a little talk when she went to receive a new guest, she came back to find me when I had moved off to chatter somewhere else. Afterward, when I was talking French politics in a sofa, she came and sat down by me, and thereupon we rattled away; and I liked her, and felt that she liked me, and that we could be good friends together, and that she would like my very much. You will be just according to her own heart, and will like each other in five minutes."

Mr. John Morley has just passed his sixtieth birthday. It is said of him that while he is in no way the austere man of tradition, he is not rich in amusements. It is added that he likes long walks over Scottish hills, and solitary meditations in country lanes, and he has the bookman's resource of supreme happiness in the perusal of his library. The one relaxation he secures himself is music, of which he is intensely fond. In this he resembles Mr. Balfour, and both statesmen may be seen together at a Richter concert.

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

LETTERS TO AMERICAN AND ACCOMPANYING PAPERS. Published by the American Book Company, New York. Edited by Stanislaus Murray Hamilton. Vol. 1, 1732-1764. 8vo. pp. 280. (Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Boston.)

SLAY OR SAVOR. A Study of the Growth and Tendencies of Russian Civilization. By William Dudley Woodberry. 12mo. pp. 140. (H. Holt & Co., New York.)

GENERAL INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY OF THE HISTORY OF GERMANY. By Mary Pratt. 12mo. pp. 112. (Charles Scribner's Sons, New York.)

THE KINGDOM. An Expository Study. By George Dana Briggs. 12mo. pp. 300. (Charles Scribner's Sons, New York.)

DEMOCRACY. A Study of Government. By James H. Wilson. 12mo. pp. 300. (Charles Scribner's Sons, New York.)

ELEMENTS OF RHETORIC. A Course in Plain Prose. By Henry Holt & Co. 12mo. pp. 352. (Henry Holt & Co., New York.)

PAUL ET VIRGINIE. Par Bernardin de Saint-Pierre. Edited and with Introduction and Notes by Oscar Kuhn. 12mo. pp. 100. (Henry Holt & Co., New York.)

FREDERIC PANTER. By Beulah C. Garrison. 12mo. pp. 220. (B. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia.)

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE. The Truths of Spiritual Healing and Their Contribution to the Growth of Orthodoxy. By H. H. McNaughton. 12mo. pp. 78. (G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York.)

THE GOLDEN AGE COOK BOOK. By Henrietta Edwards. 12mo. pp. 178. (The Alliance Publishing Company, New York.)

THE STORY OF THE CIVIL WAR. A concise account from 1861 to 1865. By John Edwin Royce. LL. D. Part II. The Campaigns of 1862. 8vo. pp. 475. (P. D. Colver & Co., New York.)

TEXT-BOOK OF ANATOMY, PHYSIOLOGY AND HYGIENE. By Franklin Smith. 12mo. pp. 180. (William B. Eerdmans, New York.)

THE PRINCIPLES OF AGRICULTURE. A Text-Book for Schools and Colleges. By the late Sir John Lubbock. 8vo. pp. 300. (The Macmillan Company, New York.)

MAMMY'S REMINISCENCES. And other Sketches. By Martha S. Gleason. 12mo. pp. 160. (A. B. Barnes & Co., New York.)

SUNDOWN LEPAREL. Written and Illustrated by Wendell Remington. 12mo. pp. 115. (Harper & Bros., New York.)

WESTERN POETS AND OTHER VERSES. By Thomas Hardy. With illustrations by the author. 8vo. pp. 210. (Harper & Bros., New York.)

SPINIFEX AND SAND. A Narrative of Five Years' Pioneering and Exploration in Western Australia. By J. H. Sturt. 8vo. pp. 484. (M. F. Mansfield & Co., New York.)

THE STORY OF THE WAR OF 1858. Told by W. C. Schiller. 12mo. pp. 112. (The Macmillan Company, New York.)

A CRUISE UNDER THE CRESCENT. From Suez to San Marco. By Charles Warren Stafford. 8vo. pp. 300. (The Macmillan Company, New York.)

LIGHTING BY ACETYLENE. By William E. Gibbs. Second edition, revised and enlarged. 12mo. pp. 161. (The Macmillan Company, New York.)

COMMISSIONER HUBBARD. A Story of New York Schools. By Charles H. Hubbard. 12mo. pp. 200. (H. R. Fenn & Co., New York.)

THE KISS AND ITS HISTORY. By Professor Charles N. Coe. 12mo. pp. 112. (The Macmillan Company, New York.)

RHODE ISLAND AND THE FORMATION OF THE UNION. By Frank Greene Bates. 8vo. pp. 220. (The Macmillan Company, New York.)

A CIRCLE IN THE SAND. By Kate Johnson (Mrs. F. Vermilye). 12mo. pp. 300. (Lamson, Wolfe & Co., New York.)

JACK CURZON. A Novel. By Archibald Clavering Gunter. 12mo. pp. 350. (The Home Publishing Company, New York.)

VAN HOFFER. OR, THE NEW FAUST. By Alfred Smythe. 12mo. pp. 322. (G. W. Dillingham Company, New York.)

THAT GAY DECEIVER. By Albert Ross. 12mo. pp. 300. (G. W. Dillingham Company, New York.)

FRENCH LYRICS. Selected and edited, with an Introduction and Notes, by Arthur Graves Canfield. 12mo. pp. 352. (Henry Holt & Co., New York.)

Books and Publications.

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RECORD DAY IN STOCKS.

VANDERBILT STOCKS FEATURES.

STRENGTH THROUGHOUT THE LIST—BOND MARKET ACTIVE—MONEY AND EXCHANGE.

Closing prices yesterday of the principal securities and net changes from Thursday's last quotations were as follows:

Stock	Price	Change
American Express	104 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Sugar Ref.	113 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Tobacco	147 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Union	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Wool	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Cotton	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Oil	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Paper	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Glass	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Rubber	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Leather	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Lumber	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Coal	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Iron	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Steel	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Copper	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Zinc	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Lead	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Tin	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Silver	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Gold	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Platinum	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Palladium	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Iridium	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Rhodium	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Osmium	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Selenium	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Tellurium	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Bismuth	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Antimony	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Arsenic	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Vanadium	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Manganese	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Nickel	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Cobalt	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Molybdenum	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Tungsten	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Barium	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Strontium	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Calcium	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Magnesium	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Potassium	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Sodium	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Lithium	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Beryllium	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Boron	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Fluorine	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Chlorine	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Bromine	100 1/2	+ 1/2
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Am. Astatine	100 1/2	+ 1/2
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Am. Thorium	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Protactinium	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Uranium	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Neptunium	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Plutonium	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Americium	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Curium	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Berkelium	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Californium	100 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Einsteinium	100 1/2	+ 1/2
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